IV.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message, dated Fort St. George, the 22nd January 1948, received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' In accordance with rule 111 (2) of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the motion passed to-day by the Madras Legislative Assembly, desiring to obtain the concurrence of the Council in setting up a Joint Select Committee of the two Houses to consider the Madras Estates (Repeal of the Permanent Settlement and Conversion into Ryotwari) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 37 of 1947).

' That, under rule 111 of the Madras Assembly Rules, the concurrence of the Legislative Council be obtained in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of thirty members to consider the Bill, twenty members from the Assembly and ten members from the Council '."

V.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS ALIYASANTHANA BILL, 1947 [a].

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Aliyasanthana Bill, 1947, and move under rule 111 of the Madras Council Rules that the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly be obtained in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of 12 members to consider the Bill, eight members from the Assembly and four members from the Council.

" Sir, there is no necessity for me to speak at length on this Bill. Aliyasanthana law is more or less the same as the Marumakkatayam law which prevails in the neighbouring district of Malabar. In the book on the subject by Mr. P. R. Sundara Ayyar it is stated as follows (pages 243–245) :—

' Aliyasanthana law as the name implies is the rule of inheritance under which property descends in the line of nephews. The term, it will be noticed, is the exact Kanarese equivalent of the Malayalam term Marumakkatayam. The people that follow this system are to be found in Kanara and mostly speak Tulu. The word corresponding to *Marumagan* is *Marumaya* in Tulu, but the word in use among the people to denote the system of law is the Kanarese word—Aliyasanthana Kattu or more shortly Aliyakattu. The rules of this system with the traditional account of its origin are to be found in a Kanarese pamphlet known as Bhutala Pandya's Kattu Kattalai.

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 9th December 1947.